

Senator Cardin's County and Municipal Governments Guide to CARES Act Funding

Emergency Election Grants – \$400 million available nationwide

What can the allocated funding be used for? The funding can be used to increase the ability to vote by mail, expand early voting and online registration, and improve the safety of voting in-person by providing additional voting facilities and more poll-workers. This funding can directly with the 7th Congressional District's April 28th Special Election vote-by-mail and the statewide June 2nd Primary Elections.

What is the formula for state, county and city assistance? Each state is provided a minimum of \$3 million, with additional funding determined by the registered voter population of the state in relation to the registered voter population of the country. As a condition of receiving funds, states must provide a 20 percent match within two calendar years of receiving federal funding.

How much funding will Maryland receive? In Maryland, this will provide a total of \$8,906,550, with federal funding of \$7,422,125 and the 20 percent state match of \$1,484,425.

How can a state, territory, or local government unit apply and when can we expect funding?

The United States Election Assistance Commission (EAC) will automatically award the funding to the Maryland State Board of Elections within 30 days. The Maryland State Board of Elections will then distribute funding to counties and local governments to assist in holding elections.

Does the CARES Act provide any special flexibility or specific conditions for utilizing this funding? Yes, with a requirement that the State provide a report to the EAC on how the funding was spent.